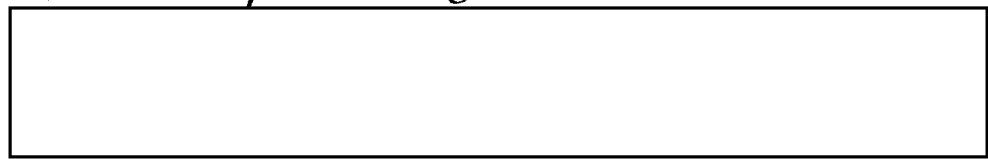


DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Declass Review by
NIMA / DoD

Imagery Analysis Report

Status of Military Forces Near the
Sino-Soviet/Sino-Mongolian Border



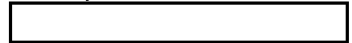
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IMAGERY ANALYSIS SERVICE

STATUS OF THE MILITARY FORCES NEAR THE
SINO-SOVIET/SINO-MONGOLIAN BORDER

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SUMMARY

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Analysis [] reveals three new probable airfields under construction along the Sino-Soviet/Sino-Mongolian border. They are located at Kurchum, USSR (48-33N 083-41E), Novokiyevskiy Uval, USSR (51-43N 129-01E), and Choybalsan, Mongolia (48-04N 114-30E). In addition, an extensive expansion of six existing Soviet airfields along the border is observed at Vozzhayevka (50-46N 128-46E), Olovyanaya (51-01N 115-25E), Karaksar (51-13N 115-50E), Koktuma (45-49N 081-55E), Makanchi (46-50N 082-00E), and Uch-Aral (46-18N 080-51E).

At least ten new airfields have been constructed on the Soviet side of the border in the past year. All of these airfields have graded earth runways and lack significant support facilities. No aircraft have been observed at any of the ten. In comparison, two new Chinese Communist airfields with concrete runways have been constructed along the border during the past year--one at Wen-su (41-15N 080-18E) and one at Wu-mao-chieh (40-39N 109-03E). Aircraft have been observed at Wu-mao-chieh.

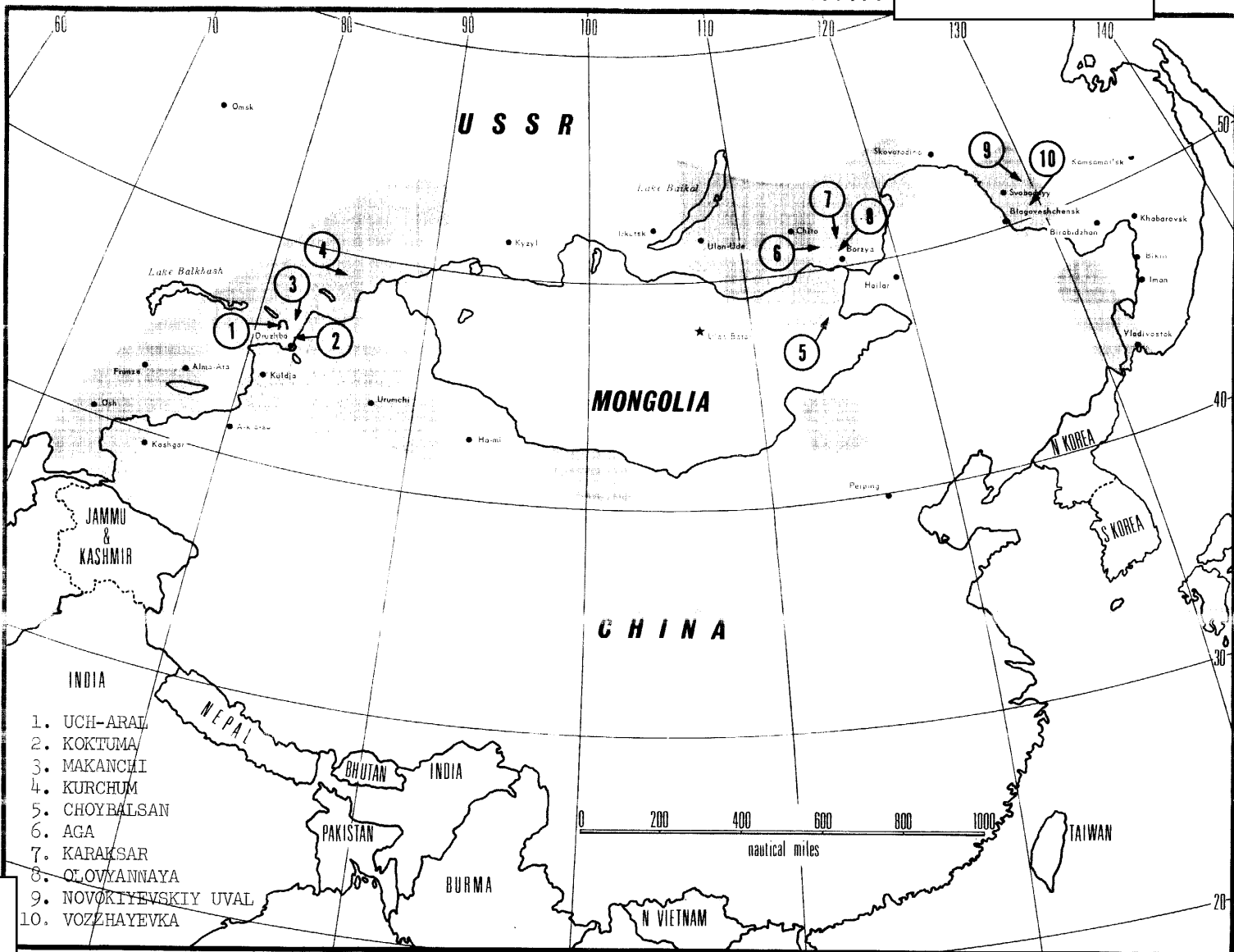
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FIGURE 1. SINO-SOVIET-MONGOLIAN BORDER ACTIVITY



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IMAGERY ANALYSIS SERVICE

INTRODUCTION

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A search of all portions of the Sino-Soviet/Sino-Mongolian Border

was accomplished in accordance with the prescribed procedure of analyzing each new mission in an attempt to determine possible changes in the type or level of military activity within 150 nautical miles (nm) of the Sino-Soviet/Sino-Mongolian Border (significant items within 300 nm may also be included).

Figure 1 graphically illustrates those portions of the border area that are covered by photography and locates the areas described in this report. Inclement weather precludes an analysis of many of the programmed targets for this mission (cloud cover and other limitations of the photographic quality are not depicted on Figure 1).

The following items of interest were observed on this mission:

WAC 201

Choybalsan Complex, Mongolia (48-04N 114-30E): A new probable airfield with a northwest/southeast probable runway approximately 6550 by 230 feet is observed under construction approximately 8 nm northeast of Choybalsan. An increase in the number of tents and vehicles is also observed at the previously reported area 2.5 nm west of Choybalsan.

An additional new tent camp and a probable barracks area under construction are observed approximately 7.5 nm east of town. This area is probably associated with the probable airfield construction activity.

WAC 202

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Aga Depot RAZ 71, USSR (51-04N 115-10E): Activity has increased slightly at this depot. A new possible security fence/road and unidentified earth scarring is observed at this installation.

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Karaksar Airfield, USSR [REDACTED] (51-13N 115-50E): A new north-northwest/south-southeast graded earth runway approximately 9,000 feet in length is observed parallel to an existing 3,600-foot concrete runway. The new runway is not observed on comparative coverage [REDACTED]. The old concrete runway now appears to be a parking apron with connecting cross links to the new runway. No aircraft are observed on this mission.

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Olovyannaya Airfield, USSR [REDACTED] (51-01N 115-25E): Extensive new construction activity is observed at this airfield. Two new parallel probable runways are under construction at the site of the previously existing 8,000-foot runway. Both of these new probable runways will exceed the length of the former runway which apparently is being abandoned. This new construction activity is not observed on comparative coverage [REDACTED]

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WAC 203

Novokiyevskiy Uval New Airfield Construction, USSR (51-43N 129-01E): A probable new airfield in early stages of construction is located 4.5 nm northeast of Novokiyevskiy Uval and approximately 90 nm east of the Sino-Soviet Border.

The graded area of the probable airfield site, including the probable overruns and taxiways, is approximately 14,900 by 1,300 feet and is oriented northeast/southwest.

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Vozzhayevka Northeast Airfield, USSR (50-46N 128-46E) [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] revealed probable precast concrete blocks adjacent to the parking apron of the 13,500 by 285-foot north/south graded earth runway. [REDACTED] revealed an increased number of these probable blocks and the beginning of probable runway resurfacing. Approximately one-fourth of the graded earth runway is now resurfaced with probable concrete and increased track activity is observed throughout the entire airfield area.

WAC 239

Kurchum Airfield Construction, USSR (48-33N 083-41E): A new probable airfield is under construction on the southeast edge of Kurchum and approximately 80 nm from the Sino-Soviet Border. The northeast/southwest probable runway is approximately 9,000 feet in length.

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WAC 244

Koktuma Area Airfield, USSR (45-49N 081-55E): A new connecting link from the runway to the parallel taxiway and a new graded earth parking apron have been constructed at this airfield since comparative coverage [redacted] (see CIA/PIR-77094).

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Makanchi Airfield, USSR (46-50N 082-00E): The graded earth runway at this town appears to have been improved and two new parallel taxiways, one on each side of the runway, have been added [redacted] (see CIA/PIR-77094).

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Uch-Aral Area Airfield, USSR (46-18N 080-51E): A second parallel taxiway and parking apron have been constructed at this airfield [redacted] [redacted] (see CIA/PIR-77094).

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